

CHAMPAGNE

MOET & CHANDON'S
DRY IMPERIAL... 1 Doz Quarts \$55
As supplied to
H.M. KING EDWARD VII.
SOLE AGENTS—
H. PRICE & CO.,
12, Queen's Road.

Hongkong Daily Press.

ESTABLISHED 1857.

CLUB WHISKY

THE BEST VALUE ON THE
MARKET.
Per Doz. ... \$15
H. PRICE & CO.,
12, Queen's Road.

No. 14,035

號五十四零千肆萬第

日拾貳月式年亥十二緒光

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18th, 1903

叁拜禮

號捌十月叁年叁零百九仟壹英港

PRICE, \$3 PER MONTH

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

We are supplying
BREWED GINGER BEER
in Stone Bottles.

OUR GINGER BEER
Is prepared from the freshest and best
ingredients.
Is the only GINGER BEER in the Colony
that is really BREWED.
Is of the highest standard of excellence and
purity.
Is a refreshing and health-giving beverage.

Price (in Stone Bottles), per dozen \$2.25
\$1.50 per dozen is allowed for the bottles
when received back at our Factories in good
condition.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.
Brewers of Ginger Beer, and Aerated Water
Manufacturers.
ESTABLISHED 1841. [a1545]

CUTLER, PALMER & CO.'S

PRICE \$11.75 PER DOZEN

NET

"SPECIAL BLEND" WHISKY
Blend
of Selected
Distillations of the
Finest Scotch Whiskies
Apply to
SIEMSEN & CO., Hongkong. [a48]

HONGKONG HIGH-LEVEL TEAM- WAYS COMPANY, LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

WEEK DAYS.
7.30 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
8.00 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
8.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
11.30 a.m. to 12.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
12.45 p.m. to 1.15 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
1.15 p.m. to 1.45 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
1.45 p.m. to 2.15 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
2.15 p.m. to 2.45 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
2.45 p.m. to 3.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
3.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
3.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
4.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
4.30 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
5.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
6.00 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
6.30 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
7.00 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
NIGHT CARS as at Week Days.
8.45 p.m. to 9 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
9.45 p.m. to 11.15 p.m. ... Every 1 hour.
SUNDAYS.
6.00 a.m. to 8.30 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
8.30 a.m. to 9.30 a.m. ... Every 30 minutes.
9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
10.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
11.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
1.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
5.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
6.00 p.m. to 7.00 p.m. ... Every 15 minutes.
7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m. ... Every 10 minutes.
NIGHT CARS as at Week Days.
Extra cars at 11.30 p.m. and 11.45 p.m.
SPECIAL CARS by arrangement at the Com-
pany's Office, 33 & 40, Queen's Road Central.
JOHN HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 1st October, 1902. [a2012]

VICTORIA CYCLE EMPORIUM.

THE pleasure of cycling consists in having
a First-class Machine, and the above
Establishment is always leading in this respect.
We are Agents for the famous "NEW
HOWE" and "MONOPOLE" CYCLES,
and we also supply fittings of every description.
Bargains can be had in Second-hand Machines.
Repairs executed with promptitude and skill.
Enamelling a Specialty.
MCKIBBY & CO.,
43 & 45A, QUEEN'S ROAD EAST.
Hongkong, 4th April, 1901. [a2584]

MACLAREN'S IMPERIAL CANADIAN CHEESE, IN JARS (MEDIUM and SMALL).

Wholesale and Retail from
LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.,
SOLE AGENTS.
Hongkong, 22nd October, 1902. [a90]

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY.

PORTLAND CEMENT.
In Casks of 375 lbs. net \$6 per Cask ex Factory.
In Bags of 250 lbs. net \$3.75 per Bag ex Factory.
SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 3rd December, 1902. [a3231]

WANTED.
A EUROPEAN JUNIOR ASSISTANT
in an Office in Hongkong.
Apply by letter only, stating qualifications,
to—
X. B.,
Care of Daily Press Office.
Hongkong, 8th March, 1903. [a775]

THE AMERICAN SYSTEM OF DENTISTRY.

DR. M. H. CHAUN,
27, DES VUEX ROAD CENTRAL, HONGKONG.
From the University of Pennsylvania, U.S.A.
Hongkong, 10th March, 1902. [a716]

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DEVELOPING AND PRINTING UNDERTAKEN
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NEW STOCK OF ENGLISH SADDLERY.

PIGSKIN SADDLES FROM 6 TO 12 LBS.
RACING SADDLES 3½ LBS. POLO SADDLES 7 LB.
NUMNAHS AND WEIGHT CLOTHS.

BRIDLES, GIRTHS, SPURS, BITS.
STIRRUP IRONS AND LEATHERS

RIDING WHIPS, &C.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

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23 and 25, QUEEN'S ROAD.

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1898-1902, by G. Crowe, Master-at-
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NEW BLACK AND BROWN SHOE
POLISH.
PRACTICAL HINTS TO TRAVELLERS,
Price \$1.75.
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"MERE FILTRATION IS, AS PEOPLE ARE NOW BEGIN-
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DESTROYING THE WORST ORGANISMS THAT WATER
MAY CONTAIN."—"DAILY TELEGRAPH."
THE AQUARIUS COMPANY USE PURE TREBLE-DIS-
TILLED WATER ONLY IN THE MANUFACTURE OF ALL
THEIR TABLE WATERS.

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.,

SOLE AGENTS, HONGKONG AND CHINA.

Hongkong, 1st March, 1903. [a35]

THE CHOICEST AND BEST

VARIETIES OF CONFECTIONERY

FROM

PARIS, LONDON, BOSTON, NEW YORK.

G. GIRAULT,

6, QUEEN'S ROAD. [a40]

CUTLER, PALMER & CO.

ESTABLISHED IN LONDON IN 1815.

SHIPPERS TO CHINA FOR 75 YEARS.

The following are some of their Stocks with the undersigned:—

SUPERB OLD COGNAC,
\$25 PER DOZ.
Distinguished by Four Stars on the label.

ANOTHER FINE COGNAC, \$18.50 per doz.
Less old than the above.

IMPERIAL BRANDY
\$12.50 PER CASE.

THE ELITE OF WHISKY—
THE "PALL MALL,"
\$22 PER DOZ.

11 Years old the finest quality shipped.
Each bottle bears an Analyst's certificate.

**C. P. & Co.'s OWN SPECIAL
BLEND WHISKY,**
\$11.75 PER DOZ.
Very soft, palatable, and mature.

EVERYBODY SHOULD TRY THESE ITEMS
AGENTS—SIEMSEN & CO., HONGKONG. [a45]

C. P. & Co.'s INVALIDS' PORT
\$22 PER DOZ.
This fine Wine is old, soft, and of grand flavour
See analysis and certificate by Professor Cassall.

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\$15.75 PER DOZ.
A fine, full, and fruity wine.

AMOROSO SHERRY,
\$22 PER DOZ.

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\$18.50 PER DOZ.

A natural and most pleasant wine to the taste.

BENEDICTINE LIQUEUR—
D.O.M.
\$43.75 PER DOZ. QUARTS.
\$45.50 PER 2 DOZ. PINTS.

THEY ARE UNEQUALLED AT THE PRICE

SOME OF THE BEST

THAT MONEY CAN BUY:

WATKINS' BALSAMIC COUGH LINCTUS.
" **EMULSION OF COD LIVER OIL.**
" **CALLICOURA.**
" **ODONTALINE.**
" **HAIR VITA.**
" **SYRUP OF HYPOPHOSPHITE.**
" &C., " &C., " &C.

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ELECTRIC LIGHT PLANTS NOW IN OPERATION IN CANTON AND KOWLOON.

**INCANDESCENT LAMPS, ARC LAMPS AND
NEENST LAMPS SUPPLIED.**

ESTIMATES MADE FOR ALL KINDS OF ELECTRICAL WORK AND SUPPLIES.
Apply to—
THE MANAGER OF WORKS AT HUNGHOM;
OR
SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., General Managers. [a426]

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AS CHEAP AS GAS!

FOR PARTICULARS APPLY TO
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GENTLEMEN'S COMPLETE OUTFITTER—
DENTS WALKING AND DRIVING GLOVES,
DRESSING GOWNS, TRAVELLING RUGS,
WARM UND-ROTHING, &C., &C. 36

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FIRST-CLASS STUDIO.

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OUTDOOR PHOTOGRAPHIC WORK.

VIEWS, HOME PORTRAITS,
INTERIORS, EXTERIORS, FOOTBALL
and CRICKET TEAMS, &C.

Work guaranteed the best in the Colony.

Address: POST OFFICE BOX No. 142
Hongkong, 25th February, 1903. [a644]

DAVID CORSAH & SON
MERCHANT NAVY
NAVY BOILED
LONG FLAX
RELAXATION CROWN
TARPAULING
ARNHOLD, KARBERG & CO.
Sole Agents.
853'

HOTELS

THOMAS' HOTEL.

NO. 2, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

THIS Hotel, having changed hands, has
been re-fitted after the style of a First-
Class European Hotel, with rooms en suite and
single, furnished with every regard to perfect
comfort and convenience. The Hotel is in very
close proximity to the principal Banks and
Shipping and Mercantile Offices.
MODERATE TARIFF.
Hongkong, 20th December, 1902. [a70]

HOTEL INTERNACIONAL.

THE MOST COMFORTABLE HOTEL
in Macao. Beautifully situated in Praya
Grande next to Government House.
Telegraphic Address: "Internacional."
Apply to—
THE MANAGER
Hongkong, 4th October, 1902. [a51]

HONGKONG HOTEL.

A First Class Hotel in every respect.
Elegantly Furnished Reading, Drawing
Room, and Smoking Rooms.
Private Bar and Billiard Rooms for Hotel
residents.
Dining Accommodation for 300 persons.
Private Dining Rooms.
Special Dining Room for large parties.
Ladies' Afternoon Tea Rooms with European
Matron in attendance.
Ladies' Cloak Room.
Ping-Pong Room.
Hydraulic Elevators to every floor.
Electric Lighting.
Electric Fans (if required).
Hot and Cold Water throughout.
Wines and Groceries specially imported by
the Hotel.
Wines cooled by Hotel refrigerating
machinery.
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machinery.
Bedroom Accommodation—131 rooms.
Fire Extinguishing Mains and Emergency
Exits on every floor.

CHARGES MODERATE.

H. HAYNES,
Manager.

THE PEAK HOTEL.

Admirably Situated. Sheltered from the
North-East Monsoon and Open to the South-
West Monsoon.

**A COVERED GANGWAY LEADS
FROM THE TRAMWAY TERMINUS
INTO THE HOTEL.**

Telephone No. 29.
Town Office: 7, DUNDRELL STREET. [a984]

KING EDWARD HOTEL.

A HIGH CLASS PRIVATE HOTEL.
Ladies' Afternoon Tea Rooms.
Private Bar and Billiard Rooms.
Rooms specially reserved for Captains of the
Macao Rifle Marine.

Hot and Cold Water throughout.
Electrically Lighted.
Electric Passenger Elevator to each floor.
Table D'Hôte at separate tables.
For Terms, &c., apply to the—
MANAGER.
Hongkong, 24th October, 1902. [a343]

HOTEL CRAIGIEBURN.

BLUNKET'S GAP, THE PEAK, near the
Tram Terminus.

Tel. 56.
For Terms, apply to the—
MANAGER.
Hongkong, 2nd July, 1900. [a50]

CONNAUGHT HOUSE.

A FIRST CLASS HOTEL Situated near
the Banks and Principal Offices.
Excellent Cuisine and Wines.
Large and lofty Rooms, elegantly furnished.
Hydraulic Elevator, hot and cold water
throughout.
Special Rates for Tourists.
Laundry Service for Guests.
For Terms, apply to the—
MANAGER.
Hongkong, 31st October, 1902. [a49]

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(ESTABLISHED 1879)

MACAO.

THIS First-class and well-famed establish-
ment is pleasantly situated in the centre of
PRAYA GRANDE, facing south, with a
charming view of the sea on the front. Com-
fortable and well furnished Bed-rooms.
Cuisine Excellent. Prompt Attendance.
Terms very Moderate.
L. HING KEE, Proprietor
Telegraphic address "HINGKEE" [a184]

"BOA VISTA"

(HOTEL-SANITARIUM OF SOUTH
CHINA)
MACAO

HAS been re-opened under European
management and most strict supervision
as to food, cleanliness, and hygiene of the place.
All comforts of a home.

A most pleasant retreat for those desirous of
a few days' rest and quiet.

Comfortable accommodation for travellers
paying a visit to the historical and picturesque
colony of Macao.

Macao is 40 miles south-west of Hongkong.
One steamer (s.s. *Houngshan*), daily to and
from Hongkong, and two steamers to and from
Canton, give easy communication with both
centres.

Cable Address—"BOAVISTA."

For Terms, apply to the—
MANAGER. [a254]

VICTORIA HOTEL.

SHAMSEEN CANTON.

BRITISH CONCESSION.

GOOD Accommodation.
Excellent Cuisine.
Every Convenience for Tourists.
T. F. D. CRUZ, Manager.
Canton, 1st October, 1901. [a183]

TIMATION

A. S. WATSON & CO.,
LIMITED.

WINE & SPIRIT MERCHANTS

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

AERATED **WATERS.**

THE WATER used is THE PUREST that can be obtained, and is skilfully FILTERED ON THE MOST SCIENTIFIC PRINCIPLES.

THE MACHINERY employed is of the latest design and most approved type.

THE BEST INGREDIENTS only are used,

GUARANTEEING ABSOLUTE

PURITY.

ENGLISH EXPERTS

Manage our Factories, and their practical knowledge and constant supervision enable us to produce waters of unrivalled excellence and purity.

A. S. WATSON & CO.
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THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

CHEMISTS AND DRUGGISTS BY APPOINTMENT TO H.E. THE GOVERNOR AND HOUSEHOLD.

[31]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ONLY communications relating to the news columns should be addressed to THE EDITOR. Correspondents must forward their names and address, so as to be able to be reached in case of need. All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only. No anonymous communications should be received. A ready appearance in other papers will be inserted. Orders for extra copies of *Daily Press* should be sent before 11 a.m. on day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited. Only supplied for Cash. Telegraphic Address: PRESS. Codes: A.B.C. 5th, Ed. Lieber's P.O. Box, 33. Telephone No. 12.

BIRTH.

On the 8th March, at St. Nicholas, the wife of the Rev. C. GRAHAM GARDNER, of a daughter.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD, C.
LONDON OFFICE: 131, FLEET STREET, E.C.

HONGKONG, 18th March, 1903.

Time was not so very long ago, when the resident in the Far East had comparatively little choice in his route homewards. It was a very great advance, both in speed and in comfort, when the mail steamer superseded the "wind-jammer," and a greater still when the Suez canal was opened and at once shortened and improved the passage to Europe. When the Pacific Mail service was formed, and large paddle-steamers crossed the broad Pacific, making the passage from San Francisco in some thirty days and calling at Japanese ports en route, this afforded a most agreeable variety in the trip, enabling the homeward-bound traveller to break the sea passage by a long railway journey across the United States, and giving him a chance of seeing a different side of the world. The completion of the great Canadian Pacific Railway and the formation of the line of magnificent steamers between Vancouver and Hongkong reduced the trip across the American continent very considerably and afforded new inducements to adopt that route, which has ever since been increasingly patronised in the summer months. Since that time larger and faster steamers have appeared and many new lines, mail and otherwise, have started, giving travellers an almost bewildering choice of routes and vessels. In addition to the lines to different ports in Europe and those on the American Pacific coast there are now opportunities via Australia and South Africa, which, if less luxurious, have

their attractions for those who desire to see new countries and places on the way to their own country, in either Europe or America. Comforts have greatly increased, moreover, and the voyage is no longer the ordeal it was formerly, while the cost has not increased, except to the unfortunate individual who calculates his income in the ever depreciating silver dollar.

The latest competitor for the support of the travelling public, however, is not a heavily subsidised and luxuriously appointed line of powerful steamships; it is a line of railway from Furtch East to the European continent, and it offers to them a saving of both time and money. To those persons who are victims to *mal de mer* it of course appears in the light of a boon and a blessing, unless indeed the constant rattle and shaking of the railway car is not an equal trial to them. The Siberian Railway is now open for traffic, and its connection with Shanghai established. A steamer leaves that port once every week for Dalny, the new Russian port in Manchuria, which is connected by the Chinese Eastern Railway with the Siberian line. The steamer is timed to make the passage from Shanghai to Dalny in thirty-four hours, and the journey from Shanghai to Paris can be accomplished in twenty-one days, against some thirty-four days by railway to Brindisi and steamer via Suez Canal. The trip across Siberia is made in a so-called *train de luxe*, but for the present at least it may be doubted whether the luxury is on a par with that contained in a first class steamer. Nevertheless there is a distinct saving of time, and the novelty of a journey over a new and picturesque route is likely to induce a good number of male passengers at any rate to try it. As an alternative way home it must command considerable attention, though it can hardly prove a formidable rival as a channel for trade, seaborne cargo being always carried at much lower rates than is possible by rail.

But the line will have a strategic value of the highest order. It forms the main connection between Russia in Europe and Russia in Asia: it brings Vladivostok into immediate and direct connection with St. Petersburg. It opens up the vast arable lands of Siberia to settlement by Russian farmers and peasants; it will bring the great mineral resources of Siberia into prominence, and lend to their early and vigorous development. It will accomplish the establishment of Muscovite power and trade in Siberian seaports and pave the way for the realisation of Russian ambitions on the Pacific. Whatever happens, it is impossible that the tide of Russian progress in Asia can be stayed altogether; it may, by a wise and prudent policy on the part of other Eastern Powers in combination, be kept within reasonable limits and legitimate channels. Great Britain is quite prepared to see such a development in Siberia resulting from Russian enterprise as will bring a rich reward and promote the prosperity of the Tsar's great empire, and will hail with nothing but satisfaction such a result. That satisfaction would, however, be accentuated if the Russian Government were to adopt a commercial policy more in consonance with that of Great Britain, instead of attempting to close the country to foreign goods and traders by the imposition of excessive import and other duties. The British and Japanese Governments would also feel relieved by seeing a less aggressive policy pursued by Russia in Manchuria, and a simple desire shown to make the best out of the very material concessions already acquired by her from China. In short, the Allies only wish to be assured that Russia's policy in the future will make for the development of peaceful commerce in the Far East and not merely for the extension of the Muscovite empire at the expense of her neighbours.

We are informed that Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K.C., and Mr. E. A. HEWITT have been approached and have consented to be nominated for election to the Sanitary Board. We also understand that Mr. A. SHELTON HOOPER will be nominated. There are only two seats to be filled on the Board, and already it seems there are three, probably four, gentlemen prepared to come forward for election. Mr. POLLOCK would certainly prove a very desirable acquisition to the Board and his election in the event of a contest would, we believe, be assured. On the other hand, though Mr. HEWITT, who represents the important interest of the P. & O. Company in the Colony, and was formerly Chairman of the Municipal Council at Shanghai, is in many respects well qualified to occupy a seat on the Board, there is a strong feeling that the important land interests of the Colony should be represented, and in this connection no better candidate could be selected than Mr. SHELTON HOOPER, whose long residence and intimate knowledge of local conditions mark him out as a peculiarly suitable candidate. The election takes place at the City Hall on April 2nd.

Dr. F. W. Clark, Medical Officer of Health, was entertained to dinner last evening by the staff of the Sanitary Board Department on the occasion of his going home on leave.

Mr. Phipps, who is a partner of Mr. Carnegie is now paying a visit to China and Japan. He is accompanied by Mr. and Miss Phipps.

The North German Lloyd steamer *Freiburg*, bound from Hamburg to China and Japan, went aground last month four miles west of Mocha. The vessel got off in the evening, and proceeded east.

Plague is increasing in India. Certain districts of Bengal are badly smitten, and the death-rate is steadily rising within them. The mortality is very nearly as high again as that of the similar period of last year, but not equal to the figures of 1901.

Mr. Pierpont Morgan's shipping trust (the International Mercantile Marine Company and the International Navigation Company) has concluded an agreement with the French Trans-Atlantic Company, similar to its agreement with the German Atlantic shipping companies.

We learn from a Manila contemporary that the first of the new pesos for circulation in the Philippine Islands was coined at the mint in Philadelphia. The coin is from designs made in the Philippines under direction of the insular government. The coining of these new dollars will be pushed rapidly, the mint officials having instructions to work day and night to turn out the first five million provided for immediate circulation under the law. It is thought that more than one million can be coined this month.

The *Siam Free Press* leaves that owing to the unsettled condition of the country, and the complicated political situation that prevails, the King of Siam has indefinitely postponed his trip to Japan and America. Our contemporary claims to have had it on excellent authority that the King of Siam was proceeding to Japan on a very important political mission, with the idea of signing a Convention and of thus making Siam a party to the political combination in the Far East, as a factor in the Anglo-Japanese Alliance.

We have received an interesting pamphlet entitled *The Work of the Navy League in our Schools*, containing articles contributed to the *Navy League Journal*, 1902, by masters of public and preparatory schools. In a short preface, Vice-Admiral Lord Charles Beresford observes that the Navy League would have fully justified its existence had it never done any other work than to bring home to the youth of our public schools the fact that the Empire was mainly created and is only maintained by the power of the British Fleet. The writers of articles in the booklet comprise the headmasters of Bradfield, Uppingham, Radley, Dover, Sedbury, University College (London), assistant masters of Eton, and many others.

Six men hold absolute sway over the United States, and "the President and the people must bow to the will of these powerful men," is the astonishing statement made by the *New York Herald*. "The Board of Managers of the United States" is indeed, according to this authority, their unofficial title. They are all Senators of the United States, and their names are William B. Allison, of Iowa; Nelson W. Aldrich, of Rhode Island; Eugene Hale, of Maine; Orville H. Platt, of Connecticut; John C. Spooner, of Wisconsin; and Marcus A. Hanna, of Ohio. The chief of these is Senator Allison, who is also Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations, which decides what sums of money shall be set aside for expenditure and what bills for appropriations shall not be passed, while he has a vote of all the House appropriation bills.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* of February 7th says: "The utter fraud that underlies and permeates the malvergent propaganda of the tubercle-plague fakers is apparent when the following unquestionable facts are considered: There has not been a single alleged case in San Francisco in the last sixty days. The death-rate of the city has positively shown no increase since the beginning of the plague-fake campaign. In the three years since the plague fiasco was started the fakers have found in San Francisco only eighty-seven alleged cases, no two of them in the same house, no two of them showing the remotest connection. In the ninety-eight days when the plague-hunters were watched by reputable and honest physicians they found not one case. The day after this surveillance ceased they found an alleged case."

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following annual donations received for 1902:

Comprodes' Guild	...	\$400
Nam Pak Hong Guild	...	200
Powley Guild	...	200
Salt Fish Guild	...	200
Boarding-house Keepers' Guild	...	140
Bankers' Guild	...	125
Optimists' Guild	...	125
China Wah Hong & Co.	...	100
Cotton Yarn Dealers' Guild	...	100
Druggists' Guild	...	100
Eating-house Keepers' Guild	...	100
Pawnbrokers' Guild	...	100
Roast Meat Guild	...	100
Exporters and Importers' Guild	...	100
Foreign Clothes Dealers' Guild	...	80
Ginseng Dealers' Guild	...	80
Goldsmiths' Guild	...	75
Mat Baga Dealers' Guild	...	75
Dried Fruit Dealers' Guild	...	50
Kwok Shin Sin Tong	...	50
Foreign Goods Dealers' Guild	...	50
Tea Shop Guild	...	50
Old Clothes Dealers' Guild	...	50
Paper Wares Dealers' Guild	...	50
Tobacco Dealers' Guild	...	50
Fresh Fish Guild	...	50
Dyes Dealers' Guild	...	50

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S SERVICE.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S RETURN.
AN ENTHUSIASTIC WELCOME.

LONDON, 15th March.

Mr. Chamberlain met with a tremendous reception at Southampton and London. Replying to an address at Southampton, Mr. Chamberlain said that he believed a permanent peace was established in South Africa, and, although he warned the nation against over-estimating the results actually achieved, he returned from South Africa in a spirit of confidence for its future.

Mr. Chamberlain was greeted at Waterloo by Cabinet Ministers, and the platform was filled with a distinguished gathering, while tremendous crowds in the streets cheered with rapturous enthusiasm. Mr. Chamberlain was visibly touched at the overpowering welcome.

All the ships at Southampton were dressed in rainbow fashion and the crews cheered and the syrens screeched as the *Norman* passed. Mr. Chamberlain, who was looking considerably aged, repeatedly raised his hat in acknowledgment of the welcome. The Corporation of Southampton received him on the quay and a royal train then conveyed the traveller to London. All the towns and villages en route were decorated and there were crowds waiting along the line.

ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM IN RUSSIA.

LONDON, 15th March.

A Commission at St. Petersburg, under the presidency of the Minister of the Interior, has commenced the work of reform of provincial administration.

THE SOMALILAND EXPEDITION

LONDON, 15th March.

Reuter's Agency at Aden wires that the force despatched by Col. Swayne has routed a strong force of the enemy at the Laskante Wells, killing fifteen and capturing and wounding many. The Mullah has gone to Ogaden for arms. Col. Manning is in a strong position at Galkayu and Col. Swayne is co-operating with him.

ARREST OF WHITAKER WRIGHT.

LONDON, 15th March.

Whitaker Wright has been arrested at New York on landing from the *La Lorraine*.

THE BROUGH COMPANY.

The Brough Company gave their farewell performance in the Theatre Royal last night, when *And You a Mason?* was repeated by special request before a crowded and highly appreciative audience. The Company leave by the *Sachsen* for Shanghai, and the good wishes of their patrons in Hongkong go with them.

WAVERLY HOTEL LICENCE.

The Justices of the Peace met yesterday afternoon at the Magistracy to consider an application from one Letitia Pyle for the transfer of her adjacent licence to sell and retail intoxicating liquors on the premises situated at 8, Ice House Street, under the sign of the "Waverly Hotel," to one Agnes Peter. Mr. F. A. Hazeland, presiding, and the other Justices present were Mr. G. H. Kemp, Mr. R. H. Craig, and Mr. C. A. P. Melbourne. There were no police objections to the transfer, and the application was granted unanimously.

FINDING DEAD BODIES AT SINGAPORE.

The *Straits Times* of the 9th inst. has the following paragraph:—

"Yesterday a number of dead bodies, all Chinese, were found by the police in a more or less decomposed state in various parts of the town, viz., McPherson Road, Tanjong Katong, and Stamford Road. An old Kling was going along Killang Road yesterday in a rickshaw when he suddenly expired near the Gas Works."

Our contemporary omits to mention the cause of death in these cases.

HEALTH OF THE COLONY.

The plague returns show that all the cases this year down to the 14th instant—69 in number—have proved fatal. All were Chinese.

Last week's return of cases of communicable disease in the Colony shows 17 cases of plague—all fatal; 3 cases of enteric fever (2 European, 1 Chinese), one being fatal, and 4 cases of small-pox (1 European and 3 Chinese).

The number of plague cases in the Colony since the beginning of the year has been brought up to 76 by the return issued at noon on Monday. In the previous forty-eight hours seven cases occurred—six were Chinese and one Indian. All but one Chinese are returned as dead. One case was found at the Circular Pathway; another opposite No. 18, Swatow Lane. The other Chinese cases were in houses situated in the following streets:—Tai Wo Street, Third Street, Sun Wai Lane, and the premises of H.K. Spinning and Weaving Co. The Indian case was taken from the market at Kowloon. One further case was returned yesterday, the victim being damped at Tsamati.

ALICE MEMORIAL AND NETHERSOLE HOSPITALS.

ANNUAL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING.
The annual meeting of the Finance Committee of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals was held at five o'clock yesterday afternoon in the former institution. The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai, C.M.G., presided, and the others present were Dr. J. C. Thomson, Rev. Dr. T. W. Pearce, Dr. R. MacLean Gibson (secretary), Mr. D. Wood (hon. treasurer), Mr. Chan Shin Ki, Mr. Tso, Mr. Abner Ramjahn, Mr. J. Goosmann, Mr. D. Clark, and Mr. G. Murray Bain.

The SECRETARY read the notice calling the meeting and the minutes of the last annual meeting, which were confirmed.

The report of the hospitals for the past year was laid on the table.

The Hon. TREASURER read his report, which showed that the total income in 1902 was \$13,335.41 against \$12,985.94 in 1901—an increase of \$349.47. Included in the figures for 1902, however, was a sum of \$850 from Chinese guilds which should have been paid in 1901, and this fact would have to be considered in dealing with the balance for 1903. In expenditure there was an increase over the previous year of \$1,510.7, the figures being—1901, \$12,885.31; 1902, \$13,895.38. The total expenditure thus exceeded the total income by over \$500. The falling exchange was an adverse factor in the accounts, and the enhanced subscriptions that were rendered necessary to balance them would no doubt be forthcoming if appeals were made to those interested in charities. In concluding his remarks, Mr. Wood intimated his own retirement from the office of hon. treasurer on the occasion of his approaching departure for home on leave, and suggested as his successor, Mr. H. C. Nicolle, Government local auditor, who was thoroughly in sympathy with the work of the hospitals.

Dr. THOMSON moved the adoption of the Treasurer's report, and said that the slight difference between income and expenditure had had its reasons so clearly explained that there was absolutely no ground for anxiety on the subject.

Mr. GOOSMANN seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

Rev. Dr. PEARCE moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Wood, whose labours on behalf of the hospitals he extolled.

The proposition was seconded by Mr. MURRAY BAIN and carried with acclamation.

Mr. WOOD having returned thanks, Dr. MACLEAN GIBSON proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. B. E. Hanson, the auditor, and this proposal, which found its second in Mr. WOOD, was also carried with unanimous approval.

On the motion of Mr. MURRAY BAIN, seconded by Mr. Tso, Mr. H. C. Nicolle was appointed hon. treasurer for the ensuing year. The appointments to the Finance Committee of Messrs. Ramjahn, Tso, Wai On, and Chan Shin Ki were confirmed, on the motion of the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Dr. THOMSON. It was also agreed to invite to become members of the Committee the Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Hon. C. W. Dickson, Mr. W. B. Dixon, and Mr. J. E. M. Smith.

Mr. A. W. Brewin, who is at present on leave at home, was re-elected chairman of the Finance Committee, Dr. Ho Kai making the necessary motion and the Rev. Dr. PEARCE seconded it.

The CHAIRMAN, in a brief speech, reviewed the position of the hospitals, and said its financial aspect was not quite so favourable as he could have wished. The Chinese, however, were responding in the matter of subscriptions more heartily than heretofore, and he was inclined to think that their previous backwardness had been more the outcome of want of knowledge than of want of sympathy. The end of the year would probably see an addition to the hospitals in the shape of a maternity hospital, the building cost of which, some twelve or thirteen thousand dollars, was in a fair way to realization. A number of Chinese gentlemen had come forward with a guarantee to meet the salary of the baby doctor who had been engaged for the new hospital, where instruction in midwifery would be imparted. Dr. Ho Kai concluded with an acknowledgement of the kindness of Mr. Ho Fook in collecting the Chinese subscriptions for 1902.

The proceedings came to a close with a vote of thanks to the Chairman, on the call of Dr. MACLEAN GIBSON.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

The following are the times, etc., for the 11th Club race:—

	1st CLASS.	H. M. S. points.	total.
Vernon	5 7 12	10	70
Dions	5 8 41	4	71
Alannah	5 9 40	0	19
	ONE-DECKER CLASS.	H. M. S. points.	total.
Bonito	5 20 45	10	29
Kathleen	5 20 50	4	50
Colleen	5 28 23	1	31
Min	5 29 45	0	21
Erica	5 30 45	0	36
	2ND CLASS.	H. M. S. points.	total.
Iris	5 27 8	5 27 8	1 45
Doreen	5 29 43	5 28 58	4 32
Payne	5 36 12	5 28 7	10 56
Maid Marian	5 36 12	5 28 7	0 27
Chantidier	5 36 12	5 28 7	0 11

THE U.S. STEEL TRADE.

A New York telegram to the *Cablenews* says:—There is no steel available in the United States for the purpose of building new battleships for the United States Steel Corporation has declared that it cannot furnish material required within the necessary time, as the Corporation is nearly twelve months behind on its orders at the present time. This activity in the steel trade has existed for over a year and has been greatly augmented by the recent coal strike. Several independent producers have been appealed to, but all have more orders booked than they can possibly fill and the steel for the new ships must be bought from foreigners.

CHINA SUGAR REFINING CO., LD.

ANNUAL MEETING.
The 25th annual general meeting of shareholders in the above Company was held yesterday at noon at the offices of the general agents, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. The Hon. C. W. Dickson (chairman of the consulting committee) presided, and the others present were the Hon. Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G., and Messrs. D. M. Moses, R. C. Wilcox, A. G. Wood (directors), J. Barton (secretary), Peter Dow, K. McK. Ross, E. C. Emmett, J. R. Michael, W. A. Gralshank, G. M. Bain, A. Bain, R. T. Wright, G. C. Anderson, C. H. Ross, Ho Fook, Chao Leep Chee, Lo Cheung Siu, and Wong Leung Hing.

The notice calling the meeting having been read,

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, The report and accounts having been circulated for some time, you will, I presume, be prepared to take them as read. It is a matter of much regret to the general agents and consulting committee that the year's working should be attended with such an unfortunate result, but having regard to the altogether exceptional conditions which prevailed, it will, I venture to think, be no surprise to those of you who have followed the movements of the sugar industry during that period. Reference has frequently been made from this chair to the necessity of purchasing supplies of raw sugar well ahead of our needs, and at last annual meeting it was indicated to you that the purchases effected in the autumn of 1901 to meet our requirements during the following year showed a considerable depreciation in value. When I mention that in August, 1901, the price of raw best sugar was in the neighbourhood of 8/- per cwt. and that in July, 1902, it was quoted at 5/10/- a fall of 2/10/- per cwt. or say 2/6/- per cwt.—you will appreciate the extent of the depreciation.

When closing accounts for 1901, outstanding shipments of a value of close upon four millions of dollars were taken over upon a basis which it was calculated would on prices then current yield a profit sufficient to neutralise the high cost of our raw sugar commitments. Unfortunately the expectation was not realised. Not only did best unexpected fall another 10 per cent., but Eastern markets were made the dumping-ground for large quantities of this bounty-fed sugar, with the result that they utterly collapsed, and instead of making the handsome profits anticipated we had much difficulty in disposing of the shipments at the low prices then established. Indeed, gentlemen, had it not been for the fortunate circumstance that a considerable percentage of these shipments to gold-selling countries were not drawn against, and that we were consequently able to benefit by the otherwise regrettable decline in silver, there would have been an actual loss. As a result of this glutting of consuming markets it was necessary to work short time for the greater part of the year, which of course means increased cost. I should here say, however, that even had other conditions allowed of it, we should probably have been unable to obtain our normal output because of scarcity of water owing to the unprecedented drought which prevailed last year. In China it was not possible owing to best competition to raise prices to a level corresponding to the enhanced cost of production resulting from lower exchange. The position has been further aggravated by the higher wages which in common with all other local industries we have had to pay for native labour, and by an increase in our ordinary trade expenses due to the depreciation in silver. I trust I have in these remarks conveyed to you the exceptional circumstances which have led to the inevitable result shown in the accounts before us—a result as disappointing as at this time last year it was unexpected. The Brussels Convention having now been ratified we may indulge in the hope that when it becomes operative during the coming autumn such an enormous over-production of beet will be a thing of the past and that competing with Continental countries upon level terms, we may be able not only to hold our own but revert to the prosperity of former years. I shall be pleased to answer any questions which shareholders may wish to put bearing upon the report and accounts now before us.

There were no questions, and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. G. M. BAIN—I have much pleasure in seconding the motion, and I think I may say fairly that the shareholders present and those who will read the clear statement of explanation which has been given from the chair will be quite satisfied that there is nothing behind what we have got now.

The motion was put to the meeting and agreed to unanimously.

The appointment of Mr. A. G. Wood as director in place of the Hon. C. S. Sharp was approved, on the motion of Mr. MICHAEL, seconded by Mr. ROSS.

Mr. WRIGHT proposed the re-election of the present members of the consulting committee, which motion was seconded by Mr. MOSES and carried without opposition.

The only remaining item of business was the appointment of auditors, and on the proposition of Mr. A. BAIN, seconded by Mr. EMMETT, Messrs. T. Arnold and W. H. Potts were re-elected.

The CHAIRMAN—That concludes the business of the meeting, gentlemen, and I am obliged to you for your attendance. Mr. Murray Bain, in seconding the report, said he hoped there was nothing behind the accounts now before us, and I am happy to be able to give you the assurance that there is nothing behind them. Everything is shown in the accounts.

Mr. G. M. BAIN—Excuse me, what I said was that from the clear statement made from the chair, shareholders would be quite satisfied that there was nothing behind. That was what I said.

The CHAIRMAN—I beg your pardon. I did not quite catch what you said.

LUZON SUGAR REFINING CO., LTD.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The 21st ordinary annual meeting of the shareholders of the above Company took place in the Company's offices yesterday. Hon. C. W. Dickson (chairman) presided, and there were also present Mr. J. H. Lewis (consulting engineer), Messrs. R. C. Wilcox, P. A. Borlow, K. McK. Ross, A. J. H. Hunter, P. Potts, Ho Fook, Chao Leep Chee and Lo Cheung Sin.

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said: Gentlemen, The report and accounts having been in your hands for some time we will, with your permission, follow the usual course and take them as read. From what passed at the last meeting of shareholders, you are aware that the chances of resuming work at Malabon were then remote for reasons which it is scarcely necessary for me to repeat. The position did not improve during the year under review and the refinery has perforce remained silent ever since our last meeting. So long as the important question of the tariff between the United States and the Philippines remains unsettled, as it at present the case, I would counsel further patience on the part of the shareholders, because although immediate prosperity for the Company will necessarily follow, the position might be so materially altered as to largely increase the value of our property. If on the other hand no substantial relief in the way of duties is obtained, it will doubtless be expedient to take the sense of the shareholders as to this course to be then pursued. I know of nothing that I can usefully add to these remarks except to say that expenses are being kept down consistent with due care of the machinery and buildings, which are in good order. Before moving the adoption of the report and accounts I shall be pleased to answer any questions which shareholders may have to ask.

There were no questions, and the CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. BARLOW seconded and the motion was unanimously agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN then proposed that Messrs. J. H. Lewis and A. G. Wood be elected as the consulting committee.

Mr. Potts seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. Ho Fook moved that Mr. Thomas Arnold be re-elected auditor.

Mr. BARLOW seconded and the motion was agreed to.

This was all the business.

POLICE COURT.

Tuesday, 17th March.

BEFORE MR. F. A. HARELAND (POLICE MAGISTRATE).

ALLEGED DISOBEDIENCE OF ORDERS.
Fourteen seamen on the *Kirkcubrightshire* were charged with disobedience of orders and neglect of duty between the 5th and 10th inst. on board the ship.

The accused, who pleaded not guilty, were represented by Mr. H. N. Ferrers. A remand was ordered.

BEFORE MR. J. H. KEMP (ACTING POLICE MAGISTRATE).

ALLEGED ATTEMPT TO STEAL A JUNK'S CARGO.

Tsui Po was charged, with another not in custody, with stealing 270 bags of rice, value \$3,435, the property of the Kung Hing Wing rice shop, 46, Connaught Road. The defendant pleaded not guilty, and was remanded till the 24th inst. Mr. M. J. D. Stephens appears for the defence.

It appears that the rice, which was the entire cargo of a junk, was consigned to the complainant firm, and when they went on Monday morning to claim it they found that the junk had already discharged the rice and that half of it had been sold. The defendant was present, and it is alleged that when arrested he was about to collect the money for the remaining portion of the rice. The defendant and the owner of the junk are believed to have been in league over the transaction, but the latter has not yet been arrested.

BODY DUMPERS.

Following a couple who were carrying a suspicious-looking bundle, a looking saw them drop their load in a lane off Third Street, and detained the pair whilst he investigated the contents. Inside was the dead body of a plague victim. The couple were accordingly arrested, and for their offence fined \$15 each.

THE MOTOR AND THE BUS.

An amusing conversation I overheard lately (says a correspondent in a London contemporary), shows that the motor-car is not yet taken seriously by its elders in the London traffic. An omnibus conductor was giving the driver of the omnibus just behind some striking information about a comrade. "E's come into fifteen hundred pound," said the conductor. "Wot?" ejaculated the driver, almost dropping his reins. "Fifteen hundred pound," repeated the conductor, rolling the figures on his tongue with manifest relish. The driver thought hard for a moment, and then said: "Is it true?" "E told me, 'issel," answered the conductor, and then, as a final demonstration, "E ain't at work now. 'E's drivin' a motor-car." "Ah!" said the omnibus driver resignedly. He wanted no further proof. Driving a motor, even if it be somebody else's motor, is a luxurious form of indolence. How different from driving horses!

BEWARE of the party offering imitations of Macniven & Cameron's Pens. They come as a boon and a blessing to men. The *Pickwick*, the *Quill*, and the *Warley Pen*. Sold at all Stationers.

MACNIVEN & CAMERON, LTD., Waverley Works, Edinburgh.

CURRENCY NOTES.

Referring to President Roosevelt's recent message to Congress on the subject of the currency in China and Mexico, the *L. & C. Express* says—

The step taken by President Roosevelt is suggestive only. He declines to make, or side with, any proposals. The Chinese-Mexican appeal repudiates any intention of importing free coinage of silver into the international scheme of adjustment. But the ultimate idea of their appeal must be aimed at giving some sort of a fixed value to the white metal or nothing is accomplished. To our mind there would be practically little or no danger in fixing silver at or about its present value. At 22d. per oz. it would scarcely pay to prospect for silver alone; its supply would, in the main, be forthcoming, as it is now, largely as by-product with gold, or other, mining. If such a rate were crystallised prices would adjust themselves; Eastern banking would be banking proper instead of a gamble, as now, and the merchant, whether importer or exporter, would readily adjust his transactions to this rate.

AN OPTIMISTIC FRENCH VIEW.

As far as one can hazard a prevision on such a subject M. Paul Leroy-Beaulieu shows himself in the *Economiste Français* to be very optimistic. He thinks that the price of silver will establish itself round 22d. per ounce. He points out that the white metal during 40 years fluctuated between 21d. and 22d. per ounce, showing a very considerable fall. Secondly, that a notable reduction has taken place in the efforts of production. During the last two years, this production, which in 1876 was 2,107,000 kilos, rose by regular stages to 5,210,942 kilos. In 1895. It increased to 1,47 per cent. in nine years and then much more slowly. In 1900 it was 5,377,000 kilos, and seemed to have reached a stationary point. The further big fall in 1902 would seem to indicate a diminution of production. In any case, he adds, it is very probable that this diminution will continue if the fall goes on; if, for instance, silver fell to 10d. or 20d. per ounce. Thirdly, the industrial use of silver is extending. Fourthly, it should be remembered that the monetary role of silver is not finished. Whilst it is a 'taken up' among the civilised nations it also preserves a monetary function of considerable importance. It is also greatly used in countries where wages are low, such as Asiatic countries and a large part of Africa. If in Europe one reckons eight francs a head the 600,000,000 or 800,000,000 of primitive people use an amount much greater. Fifthly, whilst the value of silver is fixed in gold, and the production of gold will shortly become enormous this should have an influence on the price of silver. From all these circumstances M. Paul Leroy-Beaulieu estimates that the depreciation of silver will not go on in the same ratio as in the past. There will be nothing astonishing, according to him, that the price of silver should in the future establish itself between 20d. and 22d. per ounce, and Eastern exchange be confined within comparatively small oscillations.

LONDON TALKS.

The *Times* writes—"The idea of a movement for establishing 'international bi-metalism' is disavowed, and we assume that what is intended is to endeavour to ascertain whether these countries can follow the example of India in 'fixing' the rate of exchange of silver for gold, by restricting the coinage of silver. We fear that there is little chance of its being found possible to do anything of the kind in China. There is no reason why Mexico should not be able to adopt the same plan as in France and India. But China is in a very different position."

The *Standard* remarks:—There is a vague idea that something may be done at the proposed Conference, suggested by certain of the silver-using countries. Even supposing, however, that such a Conference is actually held, it is difficult to see what measures could be adopted—short of a concession for opening the mints to the metal by the various Great Powers—which would permanently improve the standing of silver. Any intention of promoting the Conference, for the simple reason, probably, that it is known that such concessions would not be made. That China has been severely hit by the fall which has occurred in exchange since the indemnity to the Powers was arranged at a fixed rate much above the present level is undoubtedly true, and while the actual amount of the indemnity should, of course, remain as originally decided on, there are many good reasons for urging that in the matter of the "fixed" rate of exchange some concession might be made.

The *Financial Times* says—"The spurt in silver recorded as a result of the too hasty conclusions formed in regard to the International Conference suggested by President Roosevelt has quickly exhausted itself. The metal was freely offered from America and was fixed at down for cash at 21d. and lower for forward at 21d. It is now more generally recognised that nothing calculated to improve the value of the white metal, but rather the reverse, is likely to result from any joint action taken to promote the stability of exchange in the case of countries on a silver basis."

LATEST STEAMER MOVEMENTS.

The C.P.R. steamer *Empress of Japan* arrived at Nagasaki at 1 p.m. on the 16th inst., and left again at 10 p.m. same day for Kobe, where she is due to arrive at 8 a.m., to-day.

The "Shire" Line steamer *Pembroke* left Singapore on the 18th inst., p.m., and is expected here on the 22nd inst.

The N.P. steamer *Tacoma* left Victoria (B.C.) for Kobe direct on the 8th inst.

The "Mogul" Line steamer *Afridi* left Singapore on the 14th inst., a.m., and may be expected here on the 20th inst.

The P. & O. steamer *Pelita* left Singapore for this port on the 17th inst., at 6 a.m.

The N.Y.K. steamer *Asa Maru* (European Line) left Shanghai for this port on the 16th inst., p.m., and is expected here to-morrow.

THE WORLD'S GREATEST STEAMSHIPS.

THE NEW WHITE STAR LINE.

With the arrival of the *Cedric* at Liverpool from Belfast, the White Star Line receives its second ship of over 20,000 tons gross, and, more than ever, that line stands at the head of all the steamship lines of the world for the average size of its greatest steamers. If the gross tonnage of the three largest steamers of the White Star Line is taken, it is equal to an average for the three vessels of a little over 19,700 tons. The shipping company which comes next to the White Star in the average of its three largest vessels is the North German Lloyd. If the *Kaiser Wilhelm II.* is included in the list of the vessels of this company—and she may well be, for she leaves Bremen on her first voyage on April 14th—then the average of the three largest steamers of the North German Line is 18,450 tons. The Hamburg-American Line comes third, with 14,500 tons as the average of its three largest steamers; and the Cunard Line is fourth, with 13,850, as the average tonnage of its three largest steamers. If the *Arabic* is included in the White Star Line—she begins to run a few weeks hence—then of the ten largest steamers in the world the White Star has four, the North German Line has three, the Cunard has two, and the Hamburg-American one; while of the seven swiftest ocean steamers in the world, the Hamburg-American has one; the North German two at present, and three after the middle of April, if all goes well with the *Kaiser Wilhelm II.*; the Cunard has two; and the White Star one, so that while the greatest number of the world's largest vessels are under British flag, the greatest number of the swiftest vessels sail under the German flag.

The *Cedric* is 709ft. in extreme length, 75ft. in breadth, and 49ft. in depth. She is propelled by two sets of quadruple expansion engines driving twin propellers. She has accommodation for 150 first saloon, 250 second saloon, and about 2,000 third-class passengers, in addition to a crew of 335 men. The first-class dining saloon is a handsome and spacious apartment, containing seating accommodation for 340 passengers. One of the features of the *Cedric* is that, in addition to the ordinary state-rooms, there are suites consisting of bed, sitting, and bath rooms. The *Cedric* sailed on her maiden voyage to New York on the 11th February.

THE BEAUTIFUL WORD "STANDARDISATION."

The British Admiralty are to adopt the principle of standardisation with the next type of warship. The first effort at standardisation in the British Navy, says the *Naval and Military Record*, was made fifty years ago, when we wanted a fleet of gunboats for the Crimea. John Penn had engineered one gunboat, and was asked how long it would take to build the machinery for the whole. "Just as long as it would take to engine one," he ironically replied. And he satisfied the scoffing unbelievers by taking his machinery to pieces, sending one part to one contractor, another to another, for John Penn had a keen idea as to the kind of plant other contractors possessed, and all the parts were made in the numbers required in less time than the great contractor could himself make them; and all that then remained was to erect the machinery. That briefly explains the meaning of the beautiful word standardisation.

The need of such a system is, constantly being demonstrated. For instance, the *Cressy* and the *Aboukir*, identical ships apparently, were at Portsmouth. The *Cressy* had gone to Spithead to swing for the adjustment of compasses, run her commissioning trial, and leave the same day for China. The *Aboukir* could not be ready for sea for at least six months. Before the *Cressy* reached the swinging ground her steering gear so hopelessly collapsed that she had to be turned back to Portsmouth Dockyard, and there she remained for several months while new machinery was being made. The steering gear of the two ships was totally dissimilar. Had we a system of standardisation at that time, the *Aboukir* could have handed over her steering machinery and the *Cressy* could have put to sea in three days instead of being detained three months at a time when there were strong political reasons for her reaching her station at the earliest possible moment. Thus, while John Penn showed us what could be done by standardisation the recent experience of the *Cressy* and *Aboukir* showed us how to fail for the want of it, for in no case could the *Aboukir* have been ready for sea, at that date, under six months.

RELIGIOUS TROUBLES IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Despatches received at New York from Rome, says a telegram in the *Catholics*, indicate that the Vatican is gravely alarmed about the situation in the Philippines with regard to the religious war which is now on. It is stated that the reports received from the representatives of the Holy See in the Philippines are very pessimistic and take a despairing view of the situation. These reports are said to contain an appeal for concessions which will hold the people to the old church. A despatch from Rome states that in accordance with these appeals the Vatican has instructed the Apostolic Delegate in the Philippines to use the utmost liberality in his dealings with people to consider their views with regard to the removal of the Spanish friars and whenever it appears that the people of a town desire them to leave, that he withdraw them. Moreover it is directed that in the settlement of the land question, wherever the titles of the orders are faulty, no attempt be made to defend such titles, but that restitution be made to the lawful owners.

The same despatch states that the Pope feels that his days are numbered and is very solicitous that he should live to see the completion of the negotiations between his representative and the Civil Governor of the Philippines.

GREAT BRITAIN'S FOOD SUPPLY IN WAR TIME.

CORN TRADE MANIFESTO.

As a result of a recent conference at Stafford House, London, on "Food Supply in Time of War," a circular, signed by a number of prominent persons in the corn trade, was issued expressing concurrence in the opinion that the country must be prepared to see bread at practically famine prices if Great Britain became involved in an European war, for the following reasons:—

1. The experience of the Napoleonic and Crimean wars, during each of which, though we possessed full command of the sea, the price of wheat rose enormously.

2. As late as the Crimean war we were almost self-supporting, but we now import four-fifths of our wheat.

3. The chief source of supply is the United States. But the price of wheat on the American corn market can be raised artificially, and in the event of an European war in which Great Britain was involved it is quite possible—indeed, probable—that it would be so raised.

4. The corn trade on both sides of the Atlantic would expect to make war profits on a scale commensurate with war risks.

5. The capture of a few food ships, such as, having regard to the relative strength of our navy, appears inevitable, would still further drive prices up.

The circular adds that it is not possible to specify the height to which the price of wheat, and consequently of bread, would rise, for it would depend on each of the five factors before enumerated; and that, "taking, however, into account the vast importance of the question of our food supply in time of war, we feel that the country ought to know that, in the opinion of corn merchants, it must in the event of such a war prepare to see wheat, and consequently bread, at what would be to the poor famine prices."

THE COASTING TRADE IN THE FAR EAST.

Reporting upon the position and prospects of trade and navigation in Eastern Asiatic waters, the French Consul at Hongkong says that the shipowners at that place connected with the traffic between China, Indo-China, Siam and the Philippines are in presence of a real crisis, the cause of which is, more than anything else, the great increase in the amount of available tonnage, for which there is no corresponding increase in the quantity of cargo offering for transport; a state of things which makes competition exceedingly sharp. The continual depreciation in the value of silver accentuates the evil, crippling the import trade and the transport of rice from Siam and Indo-China. In the last eighteen months, the report says, thirty-five vessels have been added to the fleet attached to Hongkong and employed in the coasting trade. Besides this, owing to the slackness of business in the North Sea and the Baltic, a number of Danish and Norwegian ships were directed to Singapore, Bangkok, and Saigon, which further pressed upon the market, all the more so that they are run on much more economical conditions than British-owned steamers are. These Danish and Norwegian vessels are caught up eagerly by charterers, because, in the charterers' interest, they make up their accounts in silver dollars and not, as the British captains do, in pounds sterling. Last year, compared with the year 1901, rates of freight were generally lower by 35 to 40 per cent. The competition among the Hongkong owners, the Consul says, is divided among three groups. The first of these comprises the large German lines, which are working with profitable results. Over against these stand the British firms, and the third group is formed by Japanese owners. In the second group may be especially mentioned the firms of Jardine, Matheson & Co. and Butterfield & Swire, who at one time ruled the market. The Japanese firms are very numerous, and the traffic with Formosa and the Philippines has been monopolised by them "to the prejudice of the British." The report adds that the unfavourable results of the coasting traffic here had the consequence of producing a heavy fall in shipping shares on the Hongkong Exchange.

Fairplay.

GOLD IN EGYPT.

Indications are not wanting to show that in time the production of gold may become a valuable source of wealth to the modern Egyptians and to the large number of Englishmen who are interested in the development of the dominions of the Khedive. From recently discovered papyrus, containing reports made to the notorious Pharaoh who ground down the Israelites, it appears that in these early days Egypt was reputed to possess sufficient gold to supply the needs of the world; and the remains of the ancient workings, which to-day are visible in several places, show that the industry at one time must have attained fair proportions. Throughout the course of last year prospectors were busily at work in the Nile Valley, and their efforts met with encouraging success. Favourable reports have been received of the progress already made in excavations on the sites of ancient workings, and as labour is cheap and plentiful, and water easily obtainable, it is reasonably advanced that further development is assured. British brains and British energy have already played a prominent part in the resurrection of Egypt, and it seems but natural that British capital, with the ready concurrence of the Khedive's Government, should develop an asset which, but for our competition, would, like many others, have remained neglected and forgotten.

KODAKS, FILMS, PAPERS.

PHOTOGRAPHIC GOODS OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

DEVELOPING AND PRINTING

UNDERTAKEN.

GOOD WORK. PROMPT RETURN.

THE CHEAPEST AND MOST UP-TO-DATE STORE IN CHINA.

ACHEE & CO.,

17A, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

FEW DOORS EAST OF HONGKONG HOTEL.

Hongkong, 11th March, 1903.

[39]

VICTORIA LITHOGRAPHIC PRESS.

3, DUDDELL STREET.

LITHOGRAPHIC AND MUSIC PRINTERS, PAPER AGENTS, &c.

EACH DEPARTMENT UNDER TRAINED EUROPEAN SUPERVISION. LATEST MACHINERY FOR PRODUCING FIRST-CLASS WORK.

AGENTS FOR—MESSRS. PARSONS BROS., PAPERS MERCHANTS, London, New York, and Sydney. Leading lines kept in stock.

SHIPPING SUBSIDIES AND THEIR UNFORESEEN EFFECTS.

Messrs. Alfred Holt and Co. last month addressed the following letter to the editor of the *Times*:—

India Buildings,

Liverpool, 11th February.

SIR,—It seems a very simple thing to take a sum of money annually from the taxes and present it to a shipowner engaged in, or willing to enter, some trade. This course has been pursued by the Government in connection with the West Indian trade, and similar measures are freely recommended elsewhere; for instance, the Select Committee on Steamship Subsidies, on utterly inadequate grounds in our judgment, advocate in their report a subsidy in the East African trade.

That such a policy may have results neither foreseen nor intended is suggested by the following statements which reach us from a firm of exporters of coconuts from Ceylon to Liverpool:—

"Since June last year there has been a considerable falling off in our shipments to Liverpool, and this contraction is getting more serious every month. It is entirely due to large supplies of Jamaica nuts being brought up from the West Indies by Messrs. Elder, Dempster, and Co.'s new subsidised line of steamers at extremely low rates—in some cases, we believe, freight-free—and dumped down on the Liverpool market at prices defying any reasonable competition from Ceylon. Our principals in London are very anxious and annoyed about this state of affairs."

It may safely be said that the West Indian subsidy was not intended to penalise either Ceylon merchants or shipowners engaged in the Eastern trade (who, as taxpayers, have to contribute to it). It is impossible, however, to embark on a policy of subsidising without doing far-reaching mischief and injustice, of which this is merely an instance.—Yours truly,

ALFRED HOLT & CO.

IF YOU REQUIRE BOTTLED ALES, BEERS AND STOUTS, BUY THE BEST

Ind. Coops & Co's	Per 8 Doz. Pts.	Per 16 Doz. Pts.
Ale	18.50	22.50
Best, Light Gravity	4	Qts. 19.00 4.75
Ale	8	Pts. 21.00 2.65
Best, Boar's Head	4	Qts. 22.00 3.50
Do.	8	Pts. 27.00 3.40
Dortmund, Pilsener	4	Qts. 18.00 4.50
Do.	8	Pts. 18.00 5.00
El Capitan	4	Qts. 16.50 4.15
Do.	8	Pts. 16.50 4.75
Jubilee	4	Qts. 16.50 4.15
Do.	8	Pts. 16.50 4.75
Munich, Dark	4	Qts. 17.00 4.25
Do.	8	Pts. 17.00 4.75
Blat, American	4	Qts. 28.00 4.70
Do.	8	Pts. 28.00 5.20
Yebisu, Japanese	8	16.00 2.10
Yebisu, Japanese	8	17.00 2.20
Dark	8	17.00 2.20

STOUT.

Ind. Coops & Co's	Per 8 Doz. Pts.	Per 16 Doz. Pts.
Guinness, Boar's Head	4	Qts. 20.00 5.00
Guinness, Boar's Head	8	Pts. 25.00 3.15

H. PRICE & CO.

12, QUEEN'S ROAD.

[41]

ON SALE.

FROM PORTSMOUTH TO PEKING VIA LADYSMITH WITH A NAVAL BRIGADE.

ILLUSTRATED WITH FOUR MAPS.

On Sale at "DAILY PRESS" OFFICE, and LOCAL BOOK-SELLERS.

Price 61 per Copy Paper Covers; \$1.50 in Boards.

Hongkong, 18th March, 1901

NOTICES OF FIRMS

THE CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

CONSEQUENT upon the retirement of Mr. W. H. RAY, owing to ill-health, Mr. JAMES WHITTALL has, from this date, been appointed SECRETARY of the above Company.

By Order of the Board of Directors, E. W. MATTLAND, Acting Secretary.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1903.

NOTICE.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that as from the 14th February, 1903, HU WUE KIU has ceased to be FOREMAN of WING FAT & CO., Printers and Stationers, and that he is no longer entitled to receive orders nor collect accounts for the said firm.

WING FAT & CO., 25, Pottinger Street, Hongkong, 17th March, 1903.

NOTICE.

VICTORIA LODGE, No. 1026, E.C.

A REGULAR MEETING OF VICTORIA LODGE will be held at the FREE-MASONS' HALL, Zetland Street, on SATURDAY, the 21st MARCH, at 8.30 for 9.00 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1903.

HONGKONG JOCKEY CLUB.

NOTICE.

OWING to Insufficient Entries the RACE MEETING advertised for the 4th April next has been ABANDONED.

By Order, A. S. ANTON, Acting Clerk of the Course.

Hongkong, 17th March, 1903.

NOTICE.

THE WORKS are well equipped with the LATEST IMPROVEMENTS and can execute any kind of work in SHIPBUILDING AND MARINE ENGINEERING as well as in REPAIRING OF SHIPS.

The COMPANY has a SALVAGE STEAMER, 712 TONS GROSS, FITTED WITH POWERFUL SALVAGE PLANT READY AT SHORT NOTICE.

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NOTICE.

Communications respecting Advertisements, Subscriptions, Printing, Binding, &c., should be addressed to the Editor, and not to the Manager. Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermand.

Orders for extra copies of DAILY PRESS should be sent before 11 a.m. on day of publication. After that hour the supply is limited. Only supplied for Cash.

Telegraphic Address: Press. Codes: A.B.C. 5th Ed. Lieber's.

P.O. Box, 38, Telephone No. 12.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS WANTED IMMEDIATELY.

A SHIP'S DOCTOR for a Short Voyage.

Apply—**DODWELL & CO., LD.**
Hongkong, 18th March, 1903. [837]

WANTED.

COMPETENT SALESMAN for English House at Shanghai. Indents only. Soft goods. State Experience and Salary required.

Apply—**LLOYD,**
31A, Nanking Road, Shanghai.
18th March, 1903. [836]

NOTICE.

A CERTIFICATED COMPETENT ACCOUNTANT seeks a permanent engagement for a moderate remuneration, and offers his services to any Firm here (Mercantile or others) whether as the Accountant or Assistant. In the absence of which, he is prepared to open or close sets of books, write up monthly accounts, and do auditing works. Extra works will be accepted as well.

Please communicate with—
H. M. E.,
Care of Daily Press Office.
Hongkong, 18th March, 1903. [836]

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION.

Information has been received from the MILITARY AUTHORITIES that GUN PRACTICE will be carried out at Lyman on WEDNESDAY, the 25th instant, at targets in a South-Easterly direction. Practice will commence at about 10 A.M.

By Command,
F. H. MAY,
Colonial Secretary.
Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 18th March, 1903. [883]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned will Sell by Public Auction,

on **SATURDAY,**
the 21st of MARCH, 1903, commencing at 2.30 P.M., at his SALE ROOMS, DUNDALL STREET,

A LARGE COLLECTION OF OLD AND RARE POSTAGE STAMPS, including MARKING BEIEGED, TRIANGULAR CAPE, ENGLISH PLATE NUMBERS, MULEBURY COVERS, UNUSED COLONIALS, &c., &c.

Catalogues will be issued.
On view from Friday, the 20th March.

Terms:—Cash on delivery.
GEO. P. LAMBERT,
Auctioneer.
Hongkong, 18th March, 1903. [881]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions from A. SCHONEMANN, Esq., to Sell by Public Auction,

on **THURSDAY,**
the 26th MARCH, 1903, at 2.30 P.M., at No. 2, ELLIOT STREET, ROBINSON ROAD,

THE WHOLE OF HIS VALUABLE HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,

Comprising:—
TAPESTRY-COVERED DRAWING-ROOM SUITE, SADDLE-BAG AND PLUSH COVERED COUCH AND ARM-CHAIR, EASY CHAIRS, OCCASIONAL TABLES, TEAK OVERMANTLE, CANTON BLACKWOOD STOOLS, TEAPOYS AND TABLES, ORNAMENTS, LACE CURTAINS, &c., &c.

EXTENSION DINING TABLE AND CHAIRS, DINNER WAGON, BOOK-CASES, WRITING TABLE, GLASS AND CROCKERY WARE, CUTLERY, &c., &c.; BATHROOM AND PANTRY REQUISITES;

Also
A Quantity of PALMS and other PLANTS in Pots (in good condition).
On view from Wednesday, the 25th March. Catalogues will be issued.

Terms:—Cash on delivery.
GEO. P. LAMBERT,
Auctioneer.
Hongkong, 18th March, 1903. [882]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW.

THE Company's Steamship

"**HAITAN**,"

Captain Roach, will be despatched for the above ports on **FRIDAY, the 20th inst., at 11 A.M.**

For Freight or Passage, apply to
DOUGLAS LARTRAK & CO.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 18th March, 1903. [885]

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

(Calling at PORT DARWIN, and QUEENSLAND Ports, and taking through Cargo to ADELAIDE, NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA, &c.)

THE Steamship

"**EASTERN**,"

Captain Ellis, will be despatched as above on **THURSDAY, the 9th April, at Noon.**

This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a refrigerating chamber, which ensures the supply of fresh provisions, ice, &c., throughout the voyage.

The Steamer is installed throughout with the electric light.

A stewardess and a duly qualified surgeon are carried.

N.B.—To assure the additional comfort of passengers, the Steamers of the Company have electric fans fitted in staterooms.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1903. [879]

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM TRIESTE, PORT SAID, ADEN, COLOMBO, PENANG & SINGAPORE. THE Company's Steamship

"**FRANZ FERDINAND**"

having arrived at Hongkong, is hereby informed that their Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, whence delivery may be obtained.

This Vessel brings on Cargo:—
From Venice ex s.s. *Venezia* transhipped at Trieste.

Optional Cargo will be discharged here unless notice to the contrary be given immediately.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Claims must be sent in to the Office of the under-tened before Noon, on the 24th of March, or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any Goods remaining in the Godowns after the 24th of March, will be subject to rent.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by **SANDER, WIELER & CO.,**
Agents.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1903. [83]

"**BARBER**" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

CARGO ex s.s. "Richmond Castle" from New York having arrived per s.s. "Benlarig" from Singapore, Consignees of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, at Kowloon, whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods remaining undelivered a for the 24th inst. will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the Steamer must be presented to the Under-tened on or before the 26th inst., or they will not be recognized.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by **DODWELL & CO., LIMITED,**
Agents.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1903. [884]

"**BEN**" LINE OF STEAMERS.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

S.S. "BENLARIG"
FROM ANTWERP, LONDON AND STRAITS.

CONSIGNEES of Cargo are hereby informed that all Goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd., whence and/or from the wharves delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Goods undelivered after the 24th inst. will be subject to rent.

All Claims against the steamer must be presented to the Under-tened on or before the 10th prox., or they will not be recognized.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 23rd inst., at 2 P.M.

No Fire Insurance has been effected. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by **GIBB, LIVINGSTON & CO.,**
Agents.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1903. [878]

HONGKONG CLUB.

NOTICE.

THE THIRD HALF-YEARLY DEBENTURES of the Hongkong Club, payable on **TUESDAY, the 31st MARCH, 1903,** will be drawn at the **HONGKONG CLUB HOUSE, at 11 O'CLOCK A.M., TOMORROW (THURSDAY), the 19th MARCH, 1903.**

Bearers of Debentures are invited to attend the Drawing.

By Order,
C. H. GRACE,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 11th March, 1903. [808]

PUBLIC LECTURE.

THE Reverend E. J. HARDY, author of "How to be Happy Though Married," has kindly consented to deliver a Lecture at the CITY HALL, on **FRIDAY, the 20th MARCH, 1903, at 5.15 P.M., on "Marriage."**

H.E. SIR WILLIAM GASCOIGNE, K.C.M.G., will take the Chair.

The Public are invited to this Lecture.
H. E. POLLOCK,
Hon. Secretary,
Hongkong Odd Volumes Society.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1903. [875]

ANNUAL OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE DINNER.

THE ANNUAL OXFORD AND CAMBRIDGE DINNER will be held on **TUESDAY, the 31st inst., at 8 P.M., in the HONGKONG HOTEL.** All University men intending to be present, who have received no previous notice, are requested to send in their names to either of the undersigned.

E. B. C. WOLFE,
The Land (or) Port Receptionist.
Rev. F. BRELY, B.N.
H.M.S. "Tamar,"
Joint Secretaries.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1903. [861]

HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

THE ANNUAL LAWN-TENNIS TOURNAMENT will be commenced on the Club Ground on **MONDAY, MARCH 30th.** Entries close on **SATURDAY, MARCH 21st.** Lists will be found in the Club Pavilion.

By Order,
A. G. WARD,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 9th March, 1903. [781]

CARTRIDGES.

NOBEL'S SPORTING BALLISTITE. Absolutely Smokeless and Water-resisting. The Best Nitro-Powder in the World.

Price of 12-BORE CARTRIDGES—
Loaded with With Powder
Prismose Cases ... \$8.25
Pegamoid Cases ... 6.85
Ejector Brass Cases ... 7.50

Apply to—
WM. SCHMIDT & CO.,
Guns-makers,
Hongkong.
Hongkong, 3rd July, 1902. [165]

PUBLIC COMPANIES

THE GREEN ISLAND CEMENT CO., LIMITED.

THE FOURTEENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held in the COMPANY'S OFFICES, No. 14, Des Voeux Road, Victoria, on **21st MARCH, 1903,** at 11 A.M., for the purpose of receiving Statement of Accounts and the Report of the General Managers for the year ending 31st December, 1902, declaring a Dividend and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 17th to the 21st March, both days inclusive.

SHEWAN, TOMES & CO.,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 7th March, 1903. [777]

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND FINANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of the above-named Company will be held at the REGISTERED OFFICES of the Company, Nos. 38 to 40, Queen's Road Central, on **THURSDAY, the 26th day of MARCH, 1903, at 12 O'CLOCK NOON,** for the purpose of considering and if thought fit passing the subjoined Resolutions:—

1. That the Company may underwrite the whole or any part of the fire risks on all, or any, of its properties as the directors may from time to time determine.

2. That the sum of \$200,000 now standing to the credit of Permanent Reserve Fund be transferred to the credit of an "Insurance Reserve Fund" and that this Fund shall be credited with the same premiums on the properties underwritten by the Company as if they had been insured with other companies, and that all losses by fire shall be met out of the same Fund.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.
Hongkong, 11th March, 1903. [815]

CAMPBELL MOORE & COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE SEVENTEENTH ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS in the above Company will be held at the above COMPANY'S OFFICE, No. 29, Queen's Road Central, at 4 P.M., on **TUESDAY, the 31st MARCH, 1903,** for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors with a Statement of Accounts to the 31st December, 1902.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 20th to the 31st MARCH, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
M. A. A. SOUZA,
Secretary.
Hongkong, 16th March, 1903. [863]

WANTED.

A EUROPEAN FIREMAN to superintend native workmen in a Foreign Factory.

Apply, with Testimonials, to—
COALMAN,
Care of Daily Press Office.
Hongkong, 12th March, 1903. [821]

SITUATION WANTED.

WANTED by a Lady a Situation as House-keeper, Children's Nurse, or as an Assistant in a Millinery Store.

Address letter to—
FEMALE WARDEN,
Victoria Gaol.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1903. [862]

WANTED.

A HOUSE in the Central part of the Town suitable for a Studio.

Apply to—
C. W. CLARK,
Post Office Box No. 142.
Hongkong, 25th February 1903. [643]

OREGON LUMBER.

THE Undersigned, being closely connected with the leading MILLS at PORTLAND and PUGET SOUND, are always prepared to book orders for any specifications at LOWEST RATES.

STIEMSEN & CO
Hongkong, 14th February, 1901. [68]

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

WANG HING,
JEWELLER,
has REMOVED on the 11th FEBRUARY to No. 10, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL (opposite Messrs. KELLY & WALSH).
Hongkong, 9th February, 1903. [472]

CARMICHAEL & CLARKE,
CONSULTING ENGINEERS AND SHIPBUILDERS.

SURVEYORS AND CONTRACTORS.
REPAIRS PROMPTLY ATTENDED TO.

TELEGRAMS: "CARMICHAEL," HONGKONG.
A B C Code, 4th Edition
Lieber's Standard Code.
TELEPHONE, 332.
Hongkong, 13th March, 1903. [3404]

A. LING & CO.,

68, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

FURNITURE STORE.
FASHIONABLE CENTRE CARPETS
ELECTRO-PLATE, LIQUOR FRAMED
AND POCHOW LACQUERED WARE.
Hongkong, 31st October, 1902. [265]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTY situate at Victoria, Hongkong, registered in the Land Office as Marine Lot No. 6A (No. 19, Jervois Street), and held for the unexpired residue of a term of 999 years will be sold by Public Auction in One Lot, by Order of the Mortgagee, at Messrs. HUGHES & HOUGH'S AUCTION ROOMS, No. 8, Des Voeux Road Central (Corner of Ice House Street), on **WEDNESDAY, the 25th day of MARCH, 1903, at 3 P.M.**

For Particulars of the Property and Conditions of Sale, apply to—
H. K. HOLMES,
Solicitor for the Vendor,
54, Queen's Road, Hongkong,
or to
Messrs. HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, 9th March, 1903. [771]

AUCTIONS

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, FOR ACCOUNT OF THE CONCERNED, TO-DAY (WEDNESDAY),

the 18th MARCH, 1903, at 11 A.M., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Voeux Road, Corner of Ice House Street,

SUNDRY HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,

Comprising:—
TEAKWOOD OVERMANTELS with GLASS, WARDROBES, BEDHEADS, CAM HORWOOD TRUNKS, CHEST-OF-DRAWERS, ORNAMENTS, VASES, &c., &c.

Also
A Quantity of FEEL HATS, BRACES, SHIRTS, COLLARS, &c.

An Assortment of GOLD JEWELLERY. Terms:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1903. [871]

THE Undersigned has received instructions to Sell by Public Auction, TO-MORROW (THURSDAY),

the 19th MARCH, 1903, at 2.30 P.M., at his Sales Rooms, Queen's Road, An Assortment of JAPANESE WARE, CURIOS, &c., &c.

KIOTO, MAKUZO and SATSUMA VASES, PLATES, TEA, and COFFEE SETS, CLOISONNE WARE, and LACQUERED WARE:

SILK EMBROIDERED TABLE COVERS, HANDKERCHIEFS, GENT'S SHIRTS, &c.,

EMBROIDERED SCREENS, INLAID PANELS, and PICTURES, &c., &c.
TERMS OF SALE.—As Customary.

V. I. REMEDIOS,
Auctioneer.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1903. [872]

VALUABLE LEASEHOLD PROPERTIES.

Situate in LOWER RICHMOND ROAD, VICTORIA, in SEVEN LOTS, on **FRIDAY,**

the 20th MARCH, 1903, at 3 P.M., at his Auction Rooms, Dundell Street, by Mr. GEO. P. LAMBERT, Auctioneer.

Lot 1. All that Piece of Ground intended to be registered in the Land Office as Section C of Island Lot No. 1216 containing an area of 11,875 square feet or thereabouts.

Lot 2. All that Piece of Ground intended to be registered in the Land Office as Section D of Island Lot No. 1216 containing an area of 16,225 square feet or thereabouts with the message thereon known as No. 1, Richmond Terrace.

Lot 3. All that Piece of Ground intended to be registered in the Land Office as Section E of Island Lot No. 1216 containing an area of 6,531.49 square feet or thereabouts with the message thereon known as No. 2, Richmond Terrace.

Lot 4. All that Piece of Ground intended to be registered in the Land Office as Section F of Island Lot No. 1216 containing an area of 6,567.50 square feet or thereabouts with the message thereon known as No. 3, Richmond Terrace.

Lot 5. All that Piece of Ground intended to be registered in the Land Office as Section G of Island Lot No. 1216 containing an area of 6,525.40 square feet or thereabouts with the message thereon known as No. 4, Richmond Terrace.

Lot 6. All that Piece of Ground intended to be registered in the Land Office as Section H of Island Lot No. 1216 containing an area of 6,390.60 square feet or thereabouts with the message thereon known as No. 5, Richmond Terrace.

Lot 7. All that Piece of Ground intended to be registered in the Land Office as the Remaining Portion of Island Lot No. 1216 containing an area of 18,275 square feet or thereabouts with the message thereon known as No. 6, Richmond Terrace.

All the above Lots are held for the residue of a term of 999 years and are sold subject to a Mortgage dated the 31st December, 1900, and registered in the Land Office by Memorial No. 20392 and to the payment by the respective Purchasers of Sections D, E, F, G, H and the Remaining Portion of the sum of \$4,250 part of the principal sum thereby secured and to the payment by the Purchaser of Section C of the sum of \$2,400 further part of the said principal sum.

For further Particulars and Conditions of Sale, apply to—

EWENS & HARBSTON,
Vendor's Solicitors,
or to
MR. GEO. P. LAMBERT,
Auctioneer.
Hongkong, 7th March, 1903. [754]

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions from Captain S. ROBINSON, R.N.R., to Sell by Public Auction,

on **SATURDAY,**
the 21st MARCH, 1903, at 2.30 P.M., within his residence, No. 4, BELLEVUE TERRACE,

THE WHOLE OF HIS HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE,

Comprising:—
DRAWING-ROOM SUITE, IRON BEDSTEAD with WINE and HAIR MAT, TRETTES, BLACKWOOD CABINET and DESK, MARBLE-TOP WASHSTANDS and DRESSING TABLES with BEVELLED GLASS, TEAKWOOD OVERMANTELS with GLASS, BRASS and IRON FENDERS, MARBLE-TOP BLACKWOOD STANDS, BLACKWOOD CORNER STANDS, TEAKWOOD EXTENSION DINING TABLE, MARBLE-TOP TABLES, BRONZES, MOREOCOCOVERED ARM CHAIRS, ELECTRO-PLATED, CROCKERY and GLASS WARE, ICE CHEST, CHEST-OF-DRAWERS, OIL PAINTING, CARPETS, RUGS, SHANGHAI LATE, COOKING STOVES, and UTENSILS, &c., &c.

TERMS:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUGH,
Auctioneers.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1903. [870]

YEE CHEONG & CO.

DEALERS IN
STAR ANISEED and GALL NUT, CASSIA OIL, ANISEED OIL, BRISTLES, GALANGAL, DUCK FEATHERS, HUMAN HAIR, ANTIMONY, and every kind of General Export Goods.

No. 28, POTTINGER STREET.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1903. [864]

BANKS

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE Business of the above Bank is conducted by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3 1/2 PER CENT. per annum.

Depositors may transfer at their option balances of \$100 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED

TO LET

TO LET.

"KELLET SPUR" at MOUNT KELLET, "BISNEE VILLA," POKFULUM ROAD, in first-class state of repair, and land on sea front Kowloon Marine Lot No. 5, admirably suited for the storage of coal. Apply to—
LIVESTAD & DAVID.
Hongkong, 13th March, 1903. [381]

TO LET.

NO. 9, SALISBURY AVENUE, Kowloon.
Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCE CO., LD.
Hongkong, 14th March, 1903. [109]

TO LET.

NO. 2, MACDONNELL ROAD.
No. 12, CASTLE ROAD.
No. 74, CAINE ROAD (formerly No. 40).
Nos. 7, 9 and 11, SEYMOUR ROAD.
1st FLOOR of No. 49, PEARL STREET.
GODOWN No. 32A, PRAYA EAST.
Apply to—
COMPRADORE'S DEPARTMENT,
Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Hongkong, 14th March, 1903. [341]

TO LET.

FURNISHED completely for 9 months from 13th May next, "TARA WERA," UPPER RICHMOND ROAD, SIX LARGE ROOMED BUNGALOW, with TENNIS COURT.
Apply to—A. H. S. Lane, Crawford & Co.
Hongkong, 14th March, 1903. [840]

TO LET.

SPACIOUS NEW HOUSES and FLATS, Cannan Road, Des Vaux Road and Pottinger Street. Close to Blakes Pier. Specially suitable for Offices, Stores, &c. Rents very moderate.
Apply to—
S. A. SETH,
Dairy Farm Co.,
or
KWONG SUN TAI,
34, Wing Lok Street.
Hongkong, 27th November, 1902. [180]

TO LET UNFURNISHED.

NO. 33, CAINE ROAD. Available from 1st March.
"COOMBE," MAGAZINE GAP. Available from 1st April.
Apply—
Daily Press Office.
Hongkong, 16th February, 1903. [542]

TO LET.

"CROWNEST," BARKER ROAD. Completely furnished. For six months from April 1st.
Apply at the Office of the FUMIGATING & DISINFECTING BUREAU, LD.
27, Des Vaux Road.
Hongkong, 11th March, 1903. [811]

TO LET.

GODOWNS, paved with granite, at Wan Chai. Suitable for storage of Coal or any other dry Merchandise. With Pier.
Apply to—
HASON LEE,
255, Queen's Road.
Hongkong, 9th December, 1902. [184]

TO LET OR FOR SALE.

"EXCELSIOR," No. 10, SAN LOURENCO, Macao. From 1st April ext.
Apply to—
DR. G. P. JORDAN,
2, Cannan Road Buildings.
Hongkong, 3rd March, 1903. [688]

TO LET.

NOS. 10, 12 and 14, LEIGHTON HILL ROAD.
For Particulars, please apply to—
MR. LI PAK,
Care of Compradores,
Nippon Yusen Kaisha,
1st Floor No. 1, Prince's Buildings, Chester Rd.
Hongkong, 5th December, 1902. [183]

TO LET.

NOS. 1 & 3, "MAGDALENE TERRACE," Corner houses, MAGAZINE GAP.
Apply to—
SPANISH PROCURATION,
Hongkong, 1st January, 1903. [773]

TO LET.

OFFICES at 6, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.
Apply to—
G. GIRAULT.
Hongkong, 3rd January, 1902. [72]

TO LET.

FIRST FLOOR of No. 14, BEACONSFIELD ARCADE, Queen's Road Central. From 1st April. Suitable for an Office. For further Particulars, apply to—
H. YEE'S STUDIO.
Hongkong, 10th March, 1903. [787]

TO LET.

NO. 1, CAMERON VILLAS, Peak.
Nos. 6, 11, 12, 15 and 18, BELLIOS TERRACE.
SHOP, No. 11, BEACONSFIELD ARCADE.
For Terms and Particulars, apply to—
TURNER & CO.
Hongkong, 7th March, 1903. [737]

TO LET.

FIRST FLOOR, No. 3, OLD BAILEY. TOP FLAT of "SEAVIEW," WANGANG GAP ROAD. Cool and healthy situation. Full view of harbour.
No. 8, REDNAXELA TERRACE.
And others to suit various requirements.
S. A. SETH,
Care of the Dairy Farm Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 13th March, 1903. [763]

TO LET.

"HARTLEY," STONY BROOKE, and "INGLEWOOD," RICHMOND ROAD.
Apply to—
LAU CHU PAK,
Care of A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd.
Hongkong, 7th March, 1903. [150]

TO LET.

"THE RETREAT," MOUNT KELLET. FLATS in MORETON TERRACE, CAUSEWAY BAY, facing the Polo Ground. No. 1, RIFON TERRACE. GODOWNS at BOWENSTON (PRAYA EAST). HOUSES in LEIGHTON HILL ROAD.
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LD.
Hongkong, 1st January, 1903. [71]

TO LET.

FURNISHED HOUSE to be let at PEAK for 2 or 2 1/2 months.
For Particulars, apply to—
TURNER & CO.
Hongkong, 5th March, 1903. [732]

TO LET.

TWO SPACIOUS GODOWNS—Nos. 95 and 96, PRAYA EAST.
Apply to—
H. N. MODY,
Victoria Buildings,
Hongkong, 2nd December, 1902. [82]

TO LET.

HOUSES at Nos. 2, 3 and 4, CHICO TERRACE, off Upper Peel Street. Each house with Five Rooms and good Servants Quarters. Rent Moderate.
Apply—
COMPRADORE,
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.
Hongkong, 31st January, 1903. [387]

TO LET.

FROM April 1st, the GROUND FLOOR and the TOP FLOOR of No. 41, Des Vaux Road Central.
Apply to—
C. S. L.,
Care of St. Queen's Road Central.
Hongkong, 16th March, 1903. [854]

TO LET FURNISHED.

A HOUSE at the PEAK from 1st April. Moderate Rent.
Apply to—
W.,
Care of Daily Press Office.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1903. [867]

TO LET.

ONE ROOM in THIRD FLOOR of PRINCE'S BUILDINGS, suitable for an Office.
Apply to—
S. J. DAVID & CO.
Hongkong, 17th March, 1903. [868]

TO LET.

SECOND FLOOR, suitable for Office. No. 35, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.
Apply to—
WING CHEONG,
Hongkong, 7th January, 1903. [184]

TO LET.

BOARD AND RESIDENCE.
Apply to—
9, SELBORNE VILLAS,
Kennedy Road.
Hongkong, 14th February, 1903. [152]

TO LET.

"TANG YUEN." BOARDING ESTABLISHMENT. European Supervision. Excellent Cuisine and Accommodation.
Apply—
MANAGERESS,
Macdonnell Road;
or
FAIRALL & CO., Queen's Road.
Hongkong, 2nd March, 1903. [681]

TO LET.

MRS. GILLANDERS, "GLENWOOD," 21, CAINE ROAD.
Hongkong, 20th September, 1902. [2515]

TO LET.

NOS. 12 and 14, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL. Entrance by Zettland Street.
Hongkong, 3rd March, 1903. [700]

TO LET.

COMFORTABLY FURNISHED ROOMS, with Board.
Apply to Mrs. MATHER,
2, Pedder's Hill.
Hongkong, 1st January, 1892.

TO LET.

THE BEST THE OLDEST THE CHEAPEST BELT IN THE WORLD IS GANDY'S

TO LET.

SOLE AGENTS: LUTGENS, EINSMANN & CO. 191-1 HONGKONG.

TO LET.

HIGH-CLASS CHRISTMAS CAKES, decorated ... from \$1.00 Plain Christmas Cakes ... from \$1 to \$5.00 German Sand Cakes ... per dozen 0.50 Assorted Pastry Cakes ... per dozen 1.50 Scotch Buns ... from 1.00 Freshen Stollen ... per dozen 2.40 Mince Pies ... from 3.00 Chicken and Ham Pies ... from 2.40 Game Pies ... from 5.00 Christmas Puddings &c. to Order. Please apply to WEISMAN & CO., 142, PRAYA EAST, ANGLO-AMERICAN STORES, 64, Elgin Road, or ROYAL AERATED WATER DEPOT, 10a House Street. Hongkong, 19th December, 1902. [117-1]

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CHRIS OF ALL-SORTS.

BY S. BARING-GOULD.

Author of "Mehalah," "John Herring," etc.

CHAPTER XXV.

OMEROD PLACE.

Those sparks of life That should be in a Roman you do want, Or else you use not.

Ormerod Place was one of those backwaters of life that lie North of Oxford Street and High Holborn in which old sticks swirl about, and which they never leave, but where whom water-logged they sink.

It consists of houses let out in chambers, some looking north and never having the sun in at the windows, the other facing south, exposed to the sun. It is mainly tenanted by middle-aged bachelors, who are secretaries of learned societies, or are literary men in a heavy line, metaphysics and history. The under story is let out in offices to companies that produce patents which do not catch the public taste, or Benevolent Societies, which though benevolent to the indigent are benefactors to the secretaries and staff.

A few of the fair sex exist there, such as are met with in the Reading-room of the British Museum, and the housekeepers to the gentlemen, who occupy the chambers.

No perambulators are trundled up and down the pavement. No organ-grinders ever visit the Place. A cab with boxes and trunks piled on the roof, and with children's faces peering out of the windows, never draws up at one of its doors. Ormerod Place is not the way to any business and consequently is not a thoroughfare in much request. One gentleman kept a cat, which periodically had an accompaniment, in fact thrice in a twelvemonth. Before each of these interesting events, the said cat perambulated the Place, descended stairs, slipped in at several doors, explored strange chambers, in quest of a convenient nursery, the Sunday bonnet of a housekeeper, or the pillow of a philanthropic gentleman, or the armchair of the Secretary of a Society for the Amelioration of anything but cats.

After the event, the woman who attended on the rooms of the owner of the cat, visited every house up and down the Place, to enquire whether there chanced to be an inmate who would take pity on a kitten.

A certain literary lady was on the shady side of the Place; and when not engaged in accumulating copy, and digesting it, equated at her window at a gentleman in the flat opposite, who was immersed in the study of Ruess, and into whose mind the notion that he was an object of interest to his vis-a-vis never entered. No, not even when this lady, with her window sash thrown open, twittered at her piano, "Love in thine eyes ever dwells."

Why Captain Fenton had taken chambers in this flat quarter, was more than he well knew himself. He had perhaps selected them because he was so seldom in town, and yet required rooms in which he could stow away his goods. On the morning of the dinner at Lord Brandon's a bassoon was driven to Stowell Chambers, and drew up at the door. From it descended Miss Lavenham and Admiral Chandos. Lady Brandon had given to Chris the address of Captain Fenton in town.

In response to knocks and bell, a woman appeared at the door, grey of hair, grim of face, and in her apparel showing a tendency to staidness. She preceded the visitors upstairs, threw open the door and welcomed them. Captain Fenton was seated in his armchair, with his back to the door, by the fire, which was unlit, with the daily papers on the floor unrolled, his pipe on the table unsmoked, and beside it a letter unopened. Christine was distressed to note his face, as he turned listlessly on hearing the door opened, and visitors announced, whose names the housekeeper mispronounced and rendered unrecognisable.

Chris saw that a change had come over her friend. His face was bronzed with the African sun, but the neatness, the trimness which had been his characteristic were gone. His hair was ruffled up in a bunch over his head, his cheek was lined, and his eyes sunken. He was aged ten years. When he realised who were in the room, he rose warily and bowed, with a shy expression, and without cordiality.

"Roger!" said Christine, "I have brought Sir John Chandos to call on you, and I have come, of course, relying on your old friendship—that stands. Lady Emily Driver told me yesterday at the Brandon's that she had been too busy with School Board and County Council matters to pay you a visit."

"I am very glad that you have done me the honour," said he. But his face did not express pleasure.

"Have you been to Barnford?" she asked. "I have lived in town since last November."

"Yes—I went there, but saw no one."

"Roger! Sir John Chandos has been dragged away by me before he had read his newspaper, and I know feels the deprivation. Now—may he have your Morning Post? He will sit in the window and study it. He is a little deaf, and will not catch our conversation, and I have plenty to say to you, and you, I am sure, to me. I brought him here, because with you, and after the lesson you gave me, I have become most precise about my P's and Q's. I would not jeopardise another rupture by any indiscretion."

"Chris! do not refer to that again. A hundred times I have reproved myself for unreasonable sensitiveness on that unfortunate occasion. Say it was an indiscretion—I am now the victim of indiscretions much more serious. Will you sit down?"

"No thank-you," answered the girl. "Let me remain where I am."

She was leaning against the table before the fire.

"Chris," said Captain Fenton, slowly and sadly, "that which you said to me last November was true—you said that I was puffed up with self-consequence over my prospects. It was so, and I behaved badly to you. But my prospects have been buried in the family vault at Fenton, with my uncle, and my reputation lies on the velvet in South Africa."

"I do not in the least believe it," said she firmly.

"It is so. I am unaware what you have heard about me. I want out of this, and to do great things in the Transvaal. I had confidence in myself. The first knock down I had there was over a convoy. I did send out scouts, but they were raw soldiers, as inexperienced as myself in the new conditions of warfare that met me there. They saw nothing. I ought to have cautioned them, more particularly, to be on the alert. The enemy creeps up on his breast, hidden behind a bush or a stone, and you never see him until you do a mistake. You are unaware of his presence till you hear the ping of his bullet and receive his sting. Of course, the blame attaches to me, but who can teach Tommy in a week, fresh from his barracks, to use eyes and ears like a Red Indian? I should have been equally inefficient myself had I not done so."

"Yes, and when you were in a tight place and were misjudged, I joined in blaming you. And now, you utter no word of reprimand against me. Whereas the papers have been down on me like a load of bricks."

"But indeed I have a word of blame for you, Roger."

"You!" he cried, and sank back in his armchair. "Go on, Chris—I am prepared for anything. My shoulders are bent and bruised."

"Roger!" she said—if he had looked into her face, he would have seen the compassion there—"Roger, you have neglected a duty today. Here on the table lies a letter to you from the War Office, and you ought at once to have opened it."

"Oh! I know what its contents are: another humiliation. I am to be sent to drill a lot of recruits and to teach them the goose-step."

"And if it be to teach them the goose-step, it is your duty to do so. Why—you are the man to instruct recruits, you with your experience."

Captain Fenton frowned and muttered something between his teeth.

She went on, "Fresh troops have to be sent out, and he serves his King and country every bit as well who trains the soldiers here, to profit by what he has learnt, as does he who leads them when they are sent out on active service."

"I'll look at the letter presently."

"Do your duty, Roger, even in small things. But this is not all. There is something further I have to say, and it was for the purpose of saying that I came here today. I had promised and must fulfil my promise. You own houses in East London. Have you ever seen them?"

"Not I. They are in an unpleasant and unsavoury locality."

"I know them, or some of them. And as Asmodeus carried the Salamanca student over Madrid, and took off the roofs of the houses to expose the interiors to his view, so will I deal with you."

He moved impatiently in his chair.

"The first room I will remove is that of one house in an alley called Paradise Place. In this house there are six rooms, with a family in each. In one room is a poor sick woman with a baby, lying on the floor—the bedstead has been sold. There are three other children, not one of whom earns a penny, and these have to be supported by the two elder sisters. One works in a factory where tin cases are made for match boxes. She has cut her fingers, gangrene is setting in, and I fear she will lose two of them. The other sister worked at white fillings, but the Queen's death has thrown her out of employment and the family has no bread, and will shortly be turned starving into the street, because unable to find the rent. That is the story of one room in one of your houses, Roger."

He did not speak, but folded his hands, and his fingers worked irritably.

"Is another room in the same house is a tailor, rotting away from a distressing malady, and nursed by his little boy. Thank God for putting the sense of duty into an ignorant child's heart; he tends the father, and begs, picks up from the gutter or streets the bread that sustains life in the father and him, living in an unsavoury atmosphere, as you so aptly described it. Unsavoury, Roger—but in one room in one of your houses."

"What can I do to alter this?" he asked petulantly.

"You cannot alter, but you can alleviate. We will come to that presently. In another room in the same house is a lone man, lying in bed, because he cannot afford a fire. He is a man of some education, but he has sunk, I know not how. He scribbles for the Press, but only occasionally gets his work accepted. Perhaps he has received payment in gold. Then he goes to a first-class restaurant and has a three-and-sixpenny dinner, and a bottle of champagne. He eats and drinks up one pound. The rest he hoards for bread and an occasional blotter, for his rent, which will go into your pocket, Roger. But it is long since he has earned anything at all, and the leather belt is daily tightened one hole about his waist, to prevent the wolf from eating through."

Perhaps next week he may get something, perhaps not. If he would write his experiences and commit to paper the tragedies that surround him, he might interest the public, but his stories concern wicked baronets and designing countesses, of whom he knows nothing. In summer he lives on the embankment and in the parks and sleeps on the benches to save house rent. That is another denizen of one of your houses, of one room in the same house, in that unpleasant locality—to us, your own expression, Roger."

"How many more of these horrible tales, Chris? Your words are worse than soft-soiled bullets. What can I do? What would you desire me to do?"

"You cannot alter, that is beyond your powers, but you can mitigate the woe, woe, woe! that goes up to the Ear of God from your property."

"In what manner?"

"I will tell you. This house of which I have removed the roof, is rented by a little greengrocer at the corner, and he subsists to the poor wretches. Once a week round goes Mr. Cohen, in a black frock-coat and top hat, for the rents and recoveries, amongst others, those due to the greengrocer. Cohen pays over the receipts less his commission to this man who takes the entire house and the greengrocer pays to the clerk of your agents—What are their names?"

"Pether and Plush."

"Yes—the greengrocer has made something by the transaction, and the clerk pays what he received to Messrs. Pether and Plush, and of course, some of his pay comes from what has passed through his hands in rent. Then your agents deduct their commission, and so a sum eventually reaches your pocket. What I would urge you to do is to sweep away some of these parasites who have their proceeds driven into the arteries of the poor tenants."

"You would not have me go round and collect my own rents?"

"No. That is impracticable. Have a single intermediary between you and the tenants, in place of three and four, one who knows the people, and their needs, and can be just at the same time that he is merciful."

"Who is there?"

"I am, tell you, a protégé of the Admiral. But about him another time. If there be a case of great hardship, go into it yourself, Roger. Property brings obligations with it, and in this particular you have neglected yours."

"Captain Fenton remained for a long time looking before him, without speaking. Chris saw that his hands and the muscles of his face were working. After a long pause she said: "Roger, I have told you the story of three rooms in one house, there are three more under the same roof that I have removed."

"No—no more," he said, and his voice shook. "I presume that these are samples of the rest?"

"Yes, samples."

Again silence ensued. Christine looked down in close observation on his face.

Suddenly he started up, and turning his back to the table, standing beside her, facing the fire, so that his countenance could not be read, he said: "Chris, old girl! if I failed in my duty in South Africa, I will not do so in England."

"That is right and now, to begin, open the letter."

"No—do that, and read its contents to me."

(To be continued.)

"DARTING"

"LANOLINE"



Natural Toilet Preparations.

"DARTING" TOILET "LANOLINE" in small and large collapsible tubes. Makes rough skins smooth and protects delicate complexions from the effects of wind and sun. "DARTING" "LANOLINE" TOILET SOAP is unequalled for cleansing and keeping the skin supple. It never irritates.

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Hongkong, 4th March, 1903. [775]

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GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"MENELAUS"	On 25th March.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"JASON"	On 3rd April.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"AGAMEMNON"	On 8th April.
GLASGOW and LIVERPOOL	"KEEMUN"	On 16th April.

HOMEWARDS.		
FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
LONDON VIA GENOA	"KINTUCK"	On 21st March.
LONDON	"PINGSUEY"	On 14th April.
LONDON	"JASON"	On 28th April.
LONDON	"AGAMEMNON"	On 12th May.

LIVERPOOL BERTH.		
FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
LIVERPOOL	"NESTOR"	On 18th March.
LIVERPOOL VIA GENOA	"DEUCALION"	On 23rd April.

CONTINENTAL BERTH.		
FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
MARSEILLES, LONDON and ANTWERP	"GLAUCUS"	On 14th April.

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For Freight, apply to **BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, AGENTS.** [10-12]

CHINA NAVIGATION CO. LIMITED.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL
NINGPO and SHANGHAI	"KIUKIANG"	On 18th March.
SHANGHAI	"HANGCHOW"	On 18th March.
KOBE	"CHINGTU"	On 19th March.
SHANGHAI	"SINGAN"	On 21st March.
THIENTSIN	"NANCHANG"	On 24th March.
MANILA	"SUNGKIANG"	On 25th March.
CEBU and ILOILO	"KAIKONG"	On 28th March.
MANILA	"CHINGTU"	On 31st April.
PORT DARWIN, THURSDAY ISLAND, COOKTOWN, CAIENS, TOWNSVILLE, BRISBANE, SYDNEY & MELBOURNE	"CHINGTU"	On 6th April.

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RUBI	2540	R. W. Almond	Manila Direct	Sat., 28th Mar., 10 A.M.
PERLA	1980	J. McGinty		

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Hongkong, 16th March, 1903.

OSAKA SHOSEN KAISHA.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

FOR	STEAMERS	LEAVING
TAMUI, VIA SWATOW	"DAIGI MARU"	SUNDAY, 22nd
AND AMOY	"T. W. GROVES"	March.
ANPING, VIA SWATOW	"MAIDZURU MARU"	WEDNESDAY, 18th
AND AMOY	T. Saito	March.
FOOCHOW, VIA SWATOW	"ANPING MARU"	WEDNESDAY, 25th
AND AMOY	I. Goro	March.

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Hongkong, 16th November, 1872. [25]

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TOTAL FUNDS at 31st DECEMBER, 1901. £15,722,693.

I. AUTHORIZED CAPITAL... £3,000,000 0 0
SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL... 2,750,000 0 0
PAID-UP CAPITAL... 687,500 0 0
II. FINE FUNDS... 2,695,548 5 2

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Hongkong, 1st July, 1902. [179]

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Hongkong, 2nd April, 1900

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Hongkong, 21st April, 1897. [118]

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Hongkong, 14th January, 1903. [246]

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Hongkong, 17th August, 1897. [28]

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Hongkong, 22nd July, 1902. [142]

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Hongkong, 16th May, 1892. [28]

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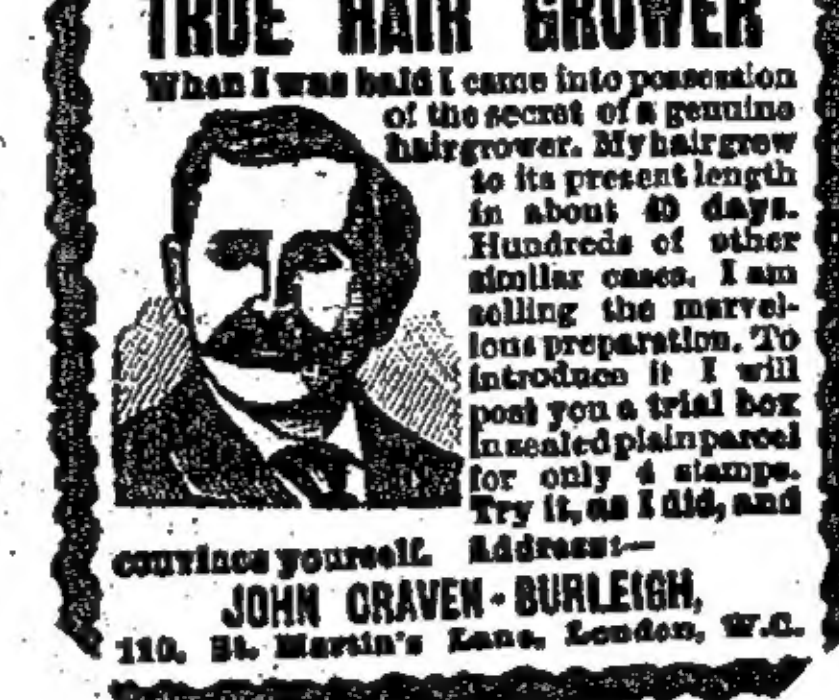
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